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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Deputy Director of Security (PPS) *W*

DATE: 19 SEP 1957

FROM : [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Langley - McLean Area Churches

1. Recently the [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] of which I am a member, approached me with a problem which he and other pastors of churches in the McLean - Langley area are presently confronted. It seems that the incidence of CIA employees in their respective congregations and the anticipated increase in this membership in years to come has compounded an up-to-now infrequent, but abnormal, status of the employee member-pastor relationship. The [REDACTED] cited an example in our own church of a wife of an employee who had allowed her husband's frequent and unexplained absences from home to build up fears and pent-up emotions completely out of proportion to the problem. She approached [REDACTED] for advice and guidance before taking "drastic action."

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2. Periodically the ministers of the local churches convene for discussions of mutual interest. They have found that with the ever increasing number of Agency employees and their dependents has come new problems and new twists to the old familiar situations in ministering to these members of their congregations. They have found that the employee himself and/or the dependent are inclined, for security reasons, to "talk around" the problem and thereby resulting in the minister not getting to the root of the trouble and consequently sometimes not offering the material assistance hoped for by the person(s) seeking counsel.

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3. The [REDACTED] stated that he is a loyal, patriotic citizen, and a combat veteran of World War II, and that he has no desire to gain access to any of his Country's secrets. However, he finds that he cannot adequately discharge the responsibilities of his office to the Agency employee members of his congregation. He then stated that he intended to do two (2) things and asked my reaction, as an Agency employee and a member of his congregation. The first thing that he intended to do was to write a letter to Mr. Dulles pointing out his and his fellow pastors' problems in caring for the spiritual and human needs of the Agency employees.

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church members in this community. The second step in his plan would be to organize a social club of the wives of employees. These wives, having mutual ground on which to discuss the unusual situations occasioned by their husbands' employment, would then be of assistance or at least offer sympathetic ears in time of need.

4. I suggested that he not write to Mr. Dulles and that I would assume the responsibility of bringing this matter to the attention of the proper authority. Secondly, in regard to organizing a club for the wives of Agency employees I advised him that ordinarily this might be a happy solution but that unfortunately such an organization would be contrary to good security; therefore, I suggested that he abandon the idea. We parted with the understanding that he would not take further action in this matter until I or someone in authority from the Agency met with him and his fellow ministers.

5. There are in the Langley - McLean area the following churches:

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer  
Reverend Alvin Kuhn - JK 4-1613

Lewinsville Presbyterian  
Reverend John Graham - EL 6-3362

McLean Baptist  
Reverend Thomas H. Cole - EL 6-3384

St. John's Catholic  
Reverend Paul Cunniff - KK 8-4916

St. John's Episcopal  
Reverend Alfred Matthews - EL 6-4902

Trinity Methodist  
Reverend Paul Martin - EL 6-3313

6. My position in this matter is one of acting as a courier with no clear cut idea of where to deliver the information. Therefore, I am taking the liberty of referring this matter to you for such action as you deem appropriate.

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